




-  Ag Day Market
-  Community Garden Tours
-  Farm Tours



Directions to the private home garden tours on Saturday afternoon are included with the free ticket that you must obtain in advance from the Garden of Club of Concord either at the Ag Day market or at concordgardentours@gmail.com

Visit concordfood.ning.com for locations of the restaurants offering food specials during the weekend.




CONCORD Farm & Garden Fair

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 12-13

Saturday

-  10AM—2PM
10th annual Ag Day Farmers Market
-  2—5PM
Community and Home Garden Tours
- All Day
Lunch & Dinner Restaurant Specials

Sunday

-  6AM & 1—5PM
Farm Tours



Sponsored by the Concord Agriculture Committee and Concord Gardeners Cooperative with generous contributions from individuals and The Attias Group, Barrett Sotheby's International, Concord Ag Committee, ConcordCAN!, Concord Lumber, Concord Printing, Debra's Natural Gourmet, and Dunkin' Donuts.



photo credit: Rob Weissman



Saturday, September 12

10AM to 2PM
10TH ANNUAL AG DAY FARMERS MARKET

Concord’s Agriculture Committee hosts the 10th celebration of this once-a-year event, when Concord farmers bring their producer-grown vegetables, fruit, flowers, meats, eggs and more to Main Street.

Local food is fresher and tastier! Bring your shopping bag (or buy one at the market), meet many of Concord’s farmers, and purchase from the rich array of farm products grown just a few miles from where you’re standing. Enjoy live music and vegetable car racing. Buy a picnic lunch or stay for dinner at nearby restaurants offering Ag Day specials (see box below). Find information about all the weekend’s events at the Farm & Garden Fair table, and get your free ticket to the afternoon home garden tours from the Garden Club of Concord’s table.

2 TO 5PM
COMMUNITY AND HOME GARDEN TOURS

Chart your own course! Seven bio-diverse gardens will delight the eye and encourage your interest in food gardening.

GARDEN CLUB OF CONCORD

This year’s self-guided tour of three Concord home gardens promises to be informative and inspiring. See how Concord gardeners are growing their own food using historic farmland, raised beds, vertical structures, and more. Learn the simple art of composting as well as how to start seed saving, implement drip irrigation, grow fruit trees, and keep chickens and bees. Stop by the Garden Club of Concord’s table at the Ag Day Farmers Market beforehand to pick up your free tour ticket and map, or e-mail concordgardentours@gmail.com.

GAINING GROUND, 341 Virginia Road

The driveway is shared with Thoreau Farm. Follow the signs to the Gaining Ground pavilion where we will meet.

Visitors can explore a working farm and participate in a treasure hunt that identifies sustainable practices and leads to valuable farm booty!

Gaining Ground grows 150 varieties of vegetables and fruit with the help of 2,200 community volunteers. The farm donates all 55,000+ pounds of this healthy food to meal programs and food pantries within 20 miles of the farm. Working conservation land directly behind the Thoreau Farm house and kitchen garden, Gaining Ground’s farmers use organic practices and lots of determination.

Information and directions: www.gainingground.org

THOREAU FARM, 341 Virginia Road

Park around back of house (not on Virginia Road). The site is handicapped accessible.

Visit the circa 1730 house where Henry David Thoreau was born. Free admission to the house on Saturday, plus special tours of our **1878 Heirloom Kitchen Garden at 2:15PM and 3:15PM**. Help with the harvest, save some seeds, and taste delicious heirloom produce.

Information and directions: www.thoreaufarm.org

EAST QUARTER COMMUNITY GARDEN
120 Meriam Road

East Quarter Farm is a community garden located off Meriam Road near the Ripley School administration building. Enter to the right of the school and to the rear of the parking lot. Take the wooded garden path to the right and follow the signs to the garden.

The garden is currently planted by 25+ gardeners on over 40 separate garden plots. It is bordered by several neighborhoods, Town-owned farmland, and protected wetlands.

Gardeners will be available for tours of the garden, including its ingenious watering system and “no-till” plots, and will highlight the more interesting plants growing here.

RIVERWALK COMMUNITY GARDEN
1625/1643 Main Street in West Concord

Look for the Concord Riverwalk sign on Main Street. Park across the street on Old Stow or Prairie Street.

The residents of Riverwalk, a compact community for a sustainable life, invite you to explore their gardens. Riverwalk is a collection of 13 small homes built on a 3 acre lot. Central to the community is the shared garden which serves as a place for neighbors to gather and talk, for children to learn about growing food, and for everyone to share garden practices.

www.concordriverwalk.com

FARM & GARDEN FAIR FOOD SPECIALS!

Several Concord restaurants and food spots are offering lunch and dinner specials this weekend based on local farm products. Check out *Helen’s, Haute Coffee*, the *Concord Cheese Shop*, and *Trail’s End Café* in Concord Center; *80 Thoreau* and *Farfalle* in the Depot/ Concord Crossing district; and *Nashoba Brook Bakery* and *Saltbox Kitchen* in West Concord.

Pick up an updated list of food specials from the Farm & Garden Fair table at the Ag Day Market, or visit concordfood.ning.com.

Visit concordfood.ning.com for updates

Sunday, September 13

6AM and 1 to 4PM
FARM OPEN HOUSES AND TOURS

Seven farms take you behind their farmstands! Walk the fields, talk with the farmers and get answers to your questions, view historic greenhouses, go for a tractor ride, help gather eggs and harvest veggies.

BARRETT’S MILL FARM, 449 Barrett’s Mill Road

Barrett’s Mill Farm is a diversified vegetable farm with a farm stand and CSA, in its second year of operation. The farmers grow over 50 types of vegetables and fruit on seven acres of Town-owned land. www.barrettsmillfarm.com

Farm stand open 1 to 3PM.

Tours of the fields at 1PM. Meet just outside the farm stand. Walking tour of the fields with the farmers highlighting growing practices and focusing on fall crops.

Farmers’ talk at 2PM. Join the farmers for a discussion at the greenhouse behind the farm stand. The farmers will share tips about choosing what vegetable varieties to grow and why. Come with questions and leave with ideas for next year’s vegetable garden!

BRIGHAM FARM & CROOKED ROW FIELDS
82 Fitchburg Turnpike

From the farm stand at the corner of Garfield and Route 117, in Nine Acre Corner, follow the driveway behind the barn and meet in front of the greenhouse on the left.

Two farming operations—one almost 200 years old, the other just 3 years old—operate alongside each other on the same property at Brigham Farm.

Brigham Farm, in continuous operation since 1824, is a conventional farm growing corn, strawberries, peas, and cauliflower. www.brighamfarmconcord.com.

Crooked Row Fields is a diversified vegetable operation that leases land from Brigham Farm and uses mostly organic practices. www.crookedrows.com.

Farm Tours at 2PM and 4PM. Greenhouse, farms, and antique tractors.

- We’ll tour the 100-year old greenhouse (still in use!) and take a tractor ride through the fields on an antique tractor.
- At the 2PM tour we’ll talk about how we choose the varieties of corn, lettuce, and veggies we grow to stock the farm stand.
- At 4PM, we’ll show some of our small-scale practices—many of which could be duplicated in your own garden! Wear comfortable shoes: you might be asked to pitch in!

FIRST ROOT FARM, 955 Lexington Road

First Root is located just down the road from Meriam’s Corner. Park in the numbered spots next to the farm stand, parallel park along the right shoulder of access road, or along fields to the back and right of the farm stand. No parking next to the house.

Celebrate First Root Farm’s 6th year and small-scale sustainable agriculture in Concord. The farm is a 4.5-acre vegetable and flower Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm in Minuteman National Historical Park.

Walking tours at 1PM and 2:30PM. Meet in front of the farm stand.

Come walk the fields, talk about growing food sustainably on a small scale and our philosophies of community-driven farming and responsible growth. Learn about intensive growing practices and selling strategies. Recipes and off the vine harvesting/ tasting. www.firstrootfarm.com.

Please RSVP to firstrootfarm@gmail.com.

HUTCHINS FARM, 754 Monument Street

The farm stand is 1.5 miles from the Colonial Inn in Concord Center.

Walking tours at 1:30PM and 3:30PM. Meet at the farm stand for a walking tour and discussion.

See what’s growing at a large commercial organic farm, under cultivation since 1775. Our 50+ acre farm is one of the oldest Certified Organic operations in Massachusetts. Tour will highlight growing and marketing practices and will feature Q&A with the farm manager about issues of interest.

www.hutchinsfarm.com

PETE AND JEN’S BACKYARD BIRDS

Landmark Field, off Old Road to Nine Acre Corner near Williams Road. See map in this guide for location or www.peteandjensbackyardbirds.com.

Backyard birds tour and talk, 2–3PM. Visit the chickens, gather eggs, learn how to raise egg layers and meat birds. We use organic feed and rotational grazing so they can scratch for bugs, stretch their wings, and run around.

Afterwards, visit the mini-store on Route 117 just past the Concord/Sudbury line for other great farm products and to see the other animals (pigs, turkeys, rabbits).

www.peteandjensbackyardbirds.com.

VERRILL FARM, 11 Wheeler Road, Nine Acre Corner

Pick Your Own Corn at 6AM. Join Steve Verrill and crew in our fields for a hands-on corn-picking experience. Meet at our farm stand at—**yes, 6AM!**

Farm tour at 3PM. Steve will show you around the farm, a family-owned business since 1922, on land that has been under cultivation for more than 300 years and is now permanently protected farmland. www.verrillfarm.com

Visit concordfood.ning.com for updates